

## REGULAR MEETING – March 16, 2009

The Board of Public Works and Safety of the City of Michigan City, Indiana, met in REGULAR SESSION on Monday morning, March 16, 2009, at the hour of 9:00 a.m., in the Council Chambers, in the City Hall Building, located at 100 East Michigan Boulevard, Michigan City, Indiana - a regular meeting room of this Board.

The meeting was called to order by Anthony Metzcus, who presided.

**Noted Present:** Anthony Metzcus, President; Mayor Charles Oberlie, Member; and John Schaefer, Member (3).

**Absent:** None (0).

### A QUORUM WAS NOTED PRESENT.

Also noted in attendance:

John Espar, Corporate Counsel  
Sgt. Jeff Loniewski, Traffic Division, M.C.P.D.  
Bill Phelps, City Engineer  
John Pugh, Director, Planning and Inspection  
Dave Lamb, Fire Chief, M.C.F.D.  
Jack Kahn, Director, Street Department  
Al Walus, General Manager, Sanitary District

Thomas Fedder, City Clerk  
Kim Sliwa, Asst. Deputy City Clerk

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Schaefer moved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 2, 2009 be approved as printed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Metzcus and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

### STREET LIGHTS

John Pugh, Director, Planning and Inspection informed the Board regarding the intersection improvements at Woodlawn Avenue and Hitchcock Streets. Mr. Pugh presented the Board with a schematic of the area designating where the two (2) new light poles are to be placed. Mr. Pugh stated that N.I.P.S.Co. needs approval and authorization from the Board of Public Works & Safety in writing. Mr. Pugh recommended approval to the Board.

Mayor Oberlie moved for the Clerk's Office to send a letter to N.I.P.S.Co. with the schematic stating approval from the Board of Public Works & Safety. The motion was seconded by Mr. Metzcus and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

### **DESIGN AGREEMENT – Walker Street Reconstruction**

Bill Phelps, City Engineer addressed the Board with the details of the project of the Walker Street improvements, which will run from just east of Grace Street to Woodland Avenue. Mr. Phelps stated this contract is for design only at this time, through the bidding stage. Mr. Phelps finds the contract acceptable and recommends approval of the contract.

Councilman Willie Milsap, representing the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward, addressed the Board stating on behalf of the residents of the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward, he/they would like for the Board to approve this request for design; stating it will greatly improve the drainage issues of that area as well as enhancement of the area.

Mayor Oberlie made the motion to accept the agreement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schaefer and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

### **STREET SWEEPING AGREEMENT**

Contract between the Indiana Dept. of Transportation and the City of Michigan City, IN (for the time period of July 1, 2009 thru June 30, 2013) – US 20 from Porter/LaPorte Co. Line to Woodland Avenue (7.6 curb miles), US 35 from US 12 to S.R. 212 (12.2 curb miles), & US 12 from Washington Street to Center Street (3.2 curb miles) – Total curb miles – 23.

Mayor Oberlie commented that other than the dates of the contract, there have been no changes; and moved to accept the agreement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schaefer and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

### **CHURCH FESTIVAL**

The following correspondence was received from David C. Bays with the Queen of All Saints Committee:

Once again the Queen of All Saints Committee respectfully requests that the Board approve the closing of Barker Avenue between Ester Street and Woodland Avenue during our annual parish festival.

The Parish Festival dates and times are as follows:

Wednesday, June 10, 2008	from	5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Thursday, June 11, 2008	from	5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Friday, June 12, 2008	from	5:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 13, 2008	from	1:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Sunday, June 14, 2008	from	1:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

The Committee feels the closing of Barker Avenue during the festival to automobile traffic provides a benefit to both the patrons and the City by creating a buffer zone between the festival grounds and remote parking lots. In addition, provides for increased safety for small children in and around the proximity of the festival rides. A vacated Barker Avenue also provides a staging area for the city vehicles in the event of an emergency (i.e. fire, police). If you should have any questions regarding this request, please contact us at your earliest convenience.

Sgt. Jeff Loniewski, M.C.P.D. Traffic Division, reported this is an annual event - to provide barricades for the temporary closure of Barker Avenue between Woodland Avenue and Ester Street due to the large amount of pedestrian traffic to and from the overflow parking areas. Sgt. Loniewski informed the Board that the organization is responsible for putting up and dismantling the barricades each day. Sgt. Loniewski gave the Board his recommendation for approving the request.

Joe Doyle, representing the Queen's Festival addressed the Board regarding additional security for this year's event. Mr. Doyle informed the Board that the same security will be utilized as last year, with off-duty City Police Officers.

Mayor Oberlie commented on the last few years, stating the neighborhood is concerned due to the increasing amount of incidents spilling over from the area. Mayor Oberlie stated the neighborhood would like to see more security measures for this event than in the past.

Mr. Doyle will inform the Board of the request by the Board for additional security for the event.

Mayor Oberlie made the motion to approve the request for the annual Queen's Festival; on the presumption that there will be some increased securities, with the acknowledgement that approval is on a day-to-day basis and can be revoked should there be an incident. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schaefer and carried as follows: and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie and Schaefer (3).**  
**NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

## **6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PATCH/HARBORSIDE PICNIC**

The following correspondence was received in the Clerks Office by Bennie Edwards, Chairperson for the Patch Harborside Heritage Reunion, on March 28, 2008:

Mayor Oberlie and the Michigan City Board of Works, I would like permission to conduct our "Sixth Annual Patch/Harborside Picnic to be held this August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The picnic would be held in the former Patch/Harborside site (which is currently under the construction as Gateway Park) between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> located on Michigan Blvd. Thank you, Mayor Oberlie for recognizing our non-for-profit event during your Mayoral Ball.

The new Gateway Park Project will be getting underway this summer. Mr. Pugh Planning Director for Michigan City has told me that this should not cause our organization any problems in continuing our efforts to hold our annual event. Discussion was held last year with Capt. Mark Swistek about traffic control and a meeting will be held this summer prior to the picnic to establish a more efficient way to handle the traffic. We believe with the City requiring rights to the Blvd., that it might be possible to direct traffic to make our situation safer.

For the past five years, Mayor Oberlie and the Board of Works have been very cooperative in our efforts to bring this worthwhile event to the City's Northside. There has been participation from different ethnic, race, and political background groups that help in supporting our endeavors. Our scholarship and public assistance programs help to fuel our non-for-profit organization in finding ways to educate our people and to give aid to our elderly and homeless.

This summer our request include:

1. Electricity
2. Port-A-Pots (6)
3. Trash cans
4. Picnic tables (25)
5. Traffic Control re: Capt. Mark Swistek
6. Tents
7. Live Bands and DJ
8. Alcohol on premises: NO Selling Alcohol

Sgt. Jeff Loniewski, M.C.P.D. Traffic Division addressed the Board regarding the event; stating he recommends approval of the request. However, in previous years the only involvement with this event has been to assure that all the barricades and fencing have been provided. Sgt. Loniewski stated that due to the event becoming significantly larger with each passing year, they feel it has become necessary to provide Traffic Control Assistance for this event, therefore, starting this year the M.C.P.D. Traffic Division will be providing at least one (1) to two (2) officers on over-time to assist with this event. Sgt. Loniewski has spoken to the event chairperson, Bennie Edwards, informing him that several changes will be implemented with regards to the parking arrangements, including parking restrictions on Michigan Blvd., between US Hwy 12 and Fifth Street.

Mr. Schaefer made the motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Metzcus and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

**CLAIMS AND PAYROLL**

Mr. Metzcus, moved that the claims set forth in the Register of Claims (in possession of the City Controller) and appearing in the Register be severally allowed and ordered paid and proper warrants for payment thereof hereby ordered issued in the stated amounts to person(s) and/or firm(s) as set forth, and payrolls approved. The motion was seconded by Mayor Oberlie and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

The Board signed: Payroll items in Register of Claims for informational purposes (which Register is in the possession of the City Controller) as follows:

Page	Date	Amount
1 of 7	03/13/2009	\$396,041.92

Allowance of claims as set forth in the Register of Claims as follows:

Page	Date	Amount
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1 of 7	03/16/2009	\$1,057,694.56
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**ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

Councilman Willie Milsap, representing the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward Neighborhood, asked the Board for an update on the Coolspring Avenue reconstruction project.

Mayor Oberlie informed Mr. Milsap that the City has submitted a check for the final parcel that was involved in the acquisition phases; everything has been submitted to the State. The City is just waiting for a final designation by the State of the “bid letting date”. The City is hopeful to be on the May “letting”.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The presiding officer inquired whether there was anything else to be considered by the Board at this time and, there being none, declared the meeting ADJOURNED (approximately 9:17 a.m.).

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Thomas F. Fedder, City Clerk